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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/727,563	12/05/2003	Angel Lu	4425-340	7987

7590

10/04/2006

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EXAMINER

MOONEYHAM, JANICE A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center"><b>Office Action Summary</b></p>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/727,563	<b>Applicant(s)</b> LU ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Janice A. Mooneyham	<b>Art Unit</b> 3629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)<br>2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)<br>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____<br>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application<br>6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's communication filed on 12/05/03, wherein claims 1-20 are currently pending.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 7-12 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bingham et al. (PG Pub. 2002/0069094) (Hereinafter referred to as Bingham).

Bingham discloses an on-line reservation method, system and program for a public facility, comprising the steps of:

storing a plurality of approved reservation records corresponding a plurality of public facilities on a computer, wherein each said approved reservation record contains information about an approved time span, an approved name of an applicant and an approved name list of participators (Bingham fig. 5, item 504);

storing a plurality of registered data on said computer, wherein each said registered data containing a set of user name and corresponding user password (Bingham fig. 4, item 402);

receiving a log-in data submitted from a applicant on said computer, wherein said log-in data containing a set of applicant name and corresponding applicant password (Bingham fig. 4, item 402);

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identifying said log-in data on said computer, and allowing said applicant to submit a reservation request when said set of applicant name and corresponding applicant password of said log-in data is identical to any set of user name and corresponding user password of said plurality of registered data (Bingham fig. 4, item 404-410);

receiving said reservation request submitted from said applicant on said computer, wherein said reservation request containing information about a reservation time span, a reservation name of an applicant corresponding to said reservation span and a reservation name list of participators (Bingham fig. 4, item 410);

processing said reservation request on said computer, and said reservation request is accepted to be a new approved reservation record and added to said approved reservation records when said reservation time span is not overlapped with any approved time span of said plurality of approved reservation records (Bingham fig. 5, item 506); and

outputting an approved reservation notices according to said reservation name of said applicant and said reservation name list of participators on said computer when said reservation request was accepted to be said new approved reservation record (Bingham fig. 4, item 416).

reservation time span is selected from a group consisting of single time span (Bingham fig. 7)

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
  2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
  3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
  4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
3. Claims 5-6 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bingham et al. (PG Pub. 2002/0069094) (Hereinafter referred to as Bingham) in view of Fukuma (U.S. 5,909,668).

Bingham does not disclose receiving said cancellation request submitted from said applicant, wherein said cancellation request contains information about a cancellation time span or processing said cancellation request.

However, Fukuma teaches receiving said cancellation request submitted from said applicant, wherein said cancellation request contains information about a cancellation time span and processing said cancellation request. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate into the system of reserving facility resources of Bingham with the reservation management system of Fukuma in order avoid the often complicated, time-consuming, and inefficient process

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ordinarily associated with reserving a public space. By allowing its users to cancel a submitted request for a certain time span, any superfluous reservation would be removed. This feature would create an efficient and up to date reservation system, which would keep a public space in use with minimal downtime.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janice A. Mooneyham whose telephone number is (571) 272-6805. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jan Mooneyham  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3629

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JM' with a stylized flourish.